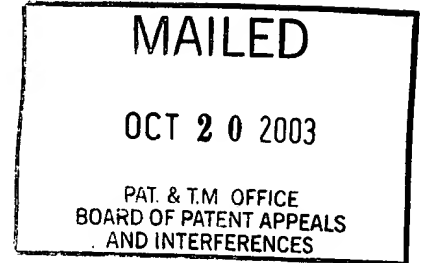


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte OLIVER NICKEL

Application No. 09/431,849



ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on October 2, 2003. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

A review of the file reveals that the amendment (Paper No. 14) filed on March 1, 2002, was not physically entered (amended claim 12 to this amendment was reproduced in the appendix to the brief, see Paper No. 22 filed March 20, 2003).

Application No. 09/431,849

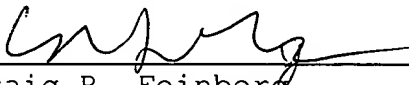
Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that this application be returned to the examiner for: 1) physical entry of the amendment filed March 1, 2002; and 2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the status of this appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

By: _____


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RA04-0014